

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 04909 120405Z
ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 NEA-11 IO-13 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-11 XMB-02
OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 L-03 H-01
NSC-05 SS-15 STR-07 CEA-01 PA-01 AGRE-00 /118 W
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P R 120320Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1560
INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SEOUL 4909

MANILA FOR USADB

PASS TREASURY DEPT FOR R. FREE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, EFIN, ADB
SUBJ: PROPOSED ADB REGIONAL SEMINAR ON THE APPLICATION OF
APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY IN FORESTRY AND FOREST PRODUCTS

REF: MANILA 8803

1. SEMINAR AS PROPOSED WOULD BE PARTICULARLY COMPLEMENTARY
TO ROK 10 YEAR FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. ALTHOUGH
THERE HAS BEEN NO INDUSTRY IN THE ROK, IT IS A NASCENT
INDUSTRY IN THE SENSE THAT BETWEEN 1973 AND THIS YEAR ONE
MILLION HECTARES OF HILL AND MOUNTAIN AREA WAS AFFORESTED
AND A SECOND ONE MILLION HECTARE PROGRAM WILL BEGIN IN 1979.
AN INDUSTRY WILL DEVELOP AS THE NEW FORESTS MATURE. ABOUT
65 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL LAND ARE OF KOREA IS MOUNTAINOUS
AND SUITABLE ONLY FOR TREES. UNTIL THE EARLY SEVENTIES
PRACTICALLY ALL OF THAT AREA REMAINED DENUDED IN CONSEQUENCE
OF WORLD WAR I AND KOREAN WAR DEPREDATIONS FOR FUEL, BUNKER
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CONSTRUCTION AND FIRES SEN IN GUERILLA CLEARING OPERATIONS.
THE ROKG OFFICE OF FORESTRY LOOKS FORWARD TO A TIME WHEN
DOMESTIC GROWTH CAN SUPPLY SOME OF THIS COUNTRY'S NEEDS
FOR WOOD WHICH ARE MET TOTALLY BY IMPORTS. ALTHOUGH SEVERAL
KOREAN FIRMS CONDUCT LOGGING OPERATIONS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA
AND OCEANIA, THERE IS AS YET NO SIGNIFICANT FOREST HARVEST-
ING PRACTICED IN THE ROK.

2. SEMINAR WOULD BE OF SIGNIFICANT INTEREST TO ROK FOREST
PLANNERS DURING THIS EARLY PERIOD OF HIGH PRIORITY
AFFORESTATION FOR THE FUTURE.

3. WHILE THERE ARE NO DIRECT HUMAN RIGHTS ASPECTS ASSOCIABLE
TO THE PROPOSED SEMINAR, EXTENSION OF KOREAN FORESTS IS
OF BENEFIT TO ALL THE PEOPLE IN TERMS OF IMPROVED SOIL AND
WATER CONSERVATION AND AIR QUALITY. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS
SEMINAR AS WORTHY REGIONAL ACTIVITY DESERVING OF AFFIRMATIVE
VOTE BY USG.
SNEIDER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FORESTRY, SEMINARS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: ca4ed18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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To: STATE
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